MINUTES AND REPORT

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MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION OF VICTORIA LTD.

held at 225 Swanston Street, Melbourne on Monday, 17th September 1984, commencing at 4 p.m.

1. PRESENT

Mr. J. N. Black	Chairman
Mr. R. D. Harper	
Mr. B. H. Macintosh	
Mr. J. Rigby	
Mr. M. Rundle	
Mr. O. J. Slattery	
Mr. I. Symons	
Mr. W. W. Rawlinson	Executive Officer

Apologies for absence received from

Messrs. Long, Mitchell and Sevior

2. MINUTES

Minutes of the Board Meeting held 14th August 1984, having been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record of that meeting and adopted.

Moved: Mr. Rundle
seconded: Mr. Rigby

3. MATTERS ARISING

Minute 6

1985 Conference Planning Committee not yet convened due to absence interstate of one member.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

4.i Issue No.1 of the Co-operator received and tabled.

Members were encouraged to submit articles on the traditional aspect of Co-operatives to ensure a more balanced coverage of matters Co-operative.

4.ii From Melbourne University Credit Union

forwarding donation of $50 and request to be added to the Federation's mailing list. Donation accepted and request agreed.

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4.iii From Co-operative Registry

Strength of Co-operative Societies June 1984.
Board requested comparative figures to enable variation in strength to be noted.

4.iv From 'The Age' 25/8/84 - Industrial Democracy of little media interest.

4.v Minister of Housing seeks public views on common equity rental co-operatives.

5. FINANCIAL

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the Federation for period 1.7.84 to 31.8.84 and estimated Balance Sheet as at 31.8.84, together with financial statements of Directors' Training Seminar, July 1984, showing surplus of $1,110-00 and 1984 Conference showing surplus of $38-00, were presented to the meeting, discussed and received.

The Board directed that

Requirements related to the authorisation of payment of vouchers be submitted to its next meeting

Moved: Mr. Slattery
seconded: Mr. Rundle

6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Board noted the quorum requirements of 15 accredited delegates and Federation rules relating to procedures in the event of failing to obtain a quorum for the advertised meeting.

The Board noted that the Annual Report and audited accounts have been issued to each member Co-operative.

Three nominations for the three vacancies on the Board have been received by due date from the Member Co-operatives whose delegates are the three retiring directors. No election will, therefore, be required.

7. MEETING WITH TREASURY APPOINTED COMMITTEE ON MARKETING OF PRODUCERS CO-OPERATIVE SHARES

Mr. Rundle reported on this meeting held 6th September when Treasury nominees

Assistant Director Finance
General Manager, Melbourne Stock Exchange
Deputy Commissioner, Corporate Affairs Commission
R. Green, Cortis and Carr

met with Federation nominees

Secretary, Murray Goulburn Co-operative
Secretary, Ibis Milk Products
M. Rundle and W. W. Rawlinson

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After discussion on possible alternative solutions to meeting the untraceable Member shareholder problem, the meeting agreed that a submission on the subject of marketing of Co-operative shares be made to the Treasury after preparation by the Legislation Committee including Mr. Slattery.

8. CENTRAL BANKING

Mr. Symons reported on the formal response from the National Australia Bank to the Federation enquiry concerning alternative ways of operating a central banking scheme for Federation members. This indicated no interest payable on credit balances. Response from the seven Co-operatives invited to submit figures to enable a sample survey for assessment of costs/benefits to be prepared by V.C.C.A. is still incomplete.

The Board agreed to await a detailed report from the Central Banking Committee after completion of the sample survey report from V.C.C.A. and discussions between the Committee and the National Australia Bank.

9. FUTURE DIRECTIONS PLANNING

The sub-committee met on 10th September and the report of its preliminary preparation for the special Board Meeting on the matter was presented by the Chairman.

The Board agreed that

the special Board Meeting to consider future direction of the Federation be held at Security Permanent Building Society Board Room on Monday, 22nd October 1984, commencing 4 p.m.

Moved: Mr. Rigby
seconded: Mr. Macintosh

10. MINISTERIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION

A copy of the Federation submission to M.A.C.C. was issued to each Member Co-operative for information. Mr. Rawlinson, as Chairman of the consultation process with Trading/Producer/Marketing Co-operatives reported meetings had been held at

Morwell, Camperdown and Melbourne

and are scheduled for

Shepparton and Mildura

He emphasised the importance of strong lobbying to ensure Government acceptance of the role of the Co-operative Federation as the State Apex Co-operative organisation capable of performing the function of the proposed Victorian Co-operative Council.

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11. CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA

11.i The next meeting of the Council of this Federation is scheduled to be held in Brisbane on 20th September 1984.

The Chairman, Mr. Black, indicated his inability to attend. His alternate, Mr. Slattery, also indicated his unavailability.

The Board resolved that

> *Mr. Rawlinson should attend and, in the event of Executive Officers not being allowed voting rights, that Mr. Macintosh should exercise two votes for the Co-operative Federation of Victoria.*

Moved: Mr. Harper
seconded: Mr. Symons

The Board directed its delegates to present its views on

Requirements of a national superannuation scheme i.e. with portability into and out of Co-operative businesses.

Non-approved submission to Federal Government on Minister for Co-operatives.

Desirability for uniform Co-operative legislation and not as recorded in the Minutes of the last meeting 'National Co-operative Legislation'

Co-operative Federation of Australia as representing the Co-operative sector in Australia.

Future structure of the Co-operative Federation of Australia to be that of a national body capable of meeting the needs of State level Co-operative Federations.

The need to include in its objectives reference to commercial development of Co-operatives and Co-operative services.

Acceptance of June 1989 as a more realistic target date for achievement of Co-operative Banking Licence.

11.ii Mr. Slattery reported on the meeting of the Banking Committee held in Sydney on 19th July 1984 with Messrs. Warne, Freeman and himself. That meeting concluded with a request that the secretariat prepare a formal presentation for use of Committee and Council members to indicate the viability of the Co-operative Bank proposition which could be used to market the proposal to potential participants.

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12. NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION, U.S.A.

Mr. Slattery reported on his participation at the 1984 Summer Institute held at University of Montana. He indicated that about 2,000 Directors, Management, Academics, Young Farmers, Students participated in the programme related mainly from Co-operatives associated with Rural U.S.A.

He stressed the significance of the U.S.A. Farm Credit System for Co-operatives and farmers.

He had benefited greatly from the exchange of information and recommended more Australian Co-operative directors and senior management should be encouraged to take part in the 1985 programme.

The Board agreed to work towards development of a group travel project for Co-operative Directors and Managers to the U.S.A. 1985 N.I.C.E.

13. EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Mr. Rawlinson reported that recent months have produced an increasing load of political involvement on behalf of the Federation which has reduced time available for member contact. He listed commitments of the past month and projected commitments for the coming month which require time spent on Federation duties to considerably exceed the agreed terms of employment.

14. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Black gave notice of his intention not to seek re-election as Chairman of the Board after the next Annual General Meeting.

15. NEXT MEETING

Monday, 15th October 1984 was set as the date of the next Board Meeting.

16. CLOSURE

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7 p.m.